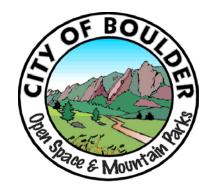
## **Outdoor Safety and Wildlife**

**Theme:** Knowing how to stay safe in the outdoors is vital if you are going to have a good time.

# Universal themes inherent in program or explicitly written in theme statement: life, death, connection, fear, safety, survival



**A.** Animals to cover: Bear, mt lion, bee, rattlesnake, tick (can use variation on "Who am I?")

- 1) Mountain Lion and bear: props: prints and skins
  - Avoid encounters
    - o make noise
    - o stay in group
    - o watch for wildlife and move away if you see bear or lion
  - What to do during encounter
    - o back off slowly, talk calmly, never run
    - o For lion, look big
    - o fight back if attacked in either case
- 2) bee puppet, rattlesnake picture and puppet
  - o avoid encounter, don't swat at insects
  - o sound of rattlesnake, compare to picture of bull snake
- 3) Binoculars, Leash (props)

respect safety of animals – keep distance

#### B. How to behave and why (rules and reasons):

Eagle egg – closure areas

Flower –don't take things

Smokey Bear – Smokey's message, know the rules about fires (none in OSMP), talk about prescribed burns

"Ouch" plant picture - stay on trail

bear poop with trash or duck wrapped in fishing line, pet pick up bag

- o dog poop is ugly, yucky, remains a long time
- o trash can harm animals and plants

## C. Be Prepared for the elements:

Water bottle, extra clothes (especially raincoat), food, hat, sunscreen, sunglasses

### D. What to do in a lightning storm

- o get down from high mountain tops and exposed places
- o stay out of caves
- o don't be the tallest thing around, don't get under isolated tall objects
- o being in a grove of trees is safer than under a single tree in a meadow
- o if hair is standing on end, lightning strike may be imminent
- o crouch down, hands on knees or over ears (not on the ground) and wait it out, have group separate a bit, because lightning strikes travel through the ground

**E. Stay found** (bring a map and stay on named, designated trails): If you get lost, whistle, hug a tree, stay put so rescue dogs and people can find you

Conclusion: have them review what they can do to help